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11. (SBU) Econoff July 29 previewed with MFA Director of Bilateral Relations Dr. Dhafer Al-Umran reftel draft joint statement for the GCC 2 meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh. Dr. Dhafer welcomed receipt of the draft and said he would immediately relay it to Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed, who will break his vacation in France to head the Bahraini delegation.

12. (SBU) Dhafer confirmed to Econoff July 30 that Shaikh Khalid had received the draft statement. Dhafer promised to provide any feedback as soon as possible ahead of the July 31 GCC 2 meeting.

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